

## Message Text

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ACTION EA-06

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R 070230Z JUL 76

FM USLO PEKING

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5901

C O N F I D E N T I A L PEKING 1212

LIMDIS

E.NM QQYTWC GDS

TAGS: PFOR ASFP CH US

SUBJECT: USLO SPACE NEEDS

REF: STATE 157298

SUMMARY: DEAN, LEVESQUE AND BURGESS MET WITH PROTOCOL  
DEPUTY CHIEF LIU HUA AT FOREIGN MINISTRY JULY 6 TO DISCUSS  
USLO OFFICE AND APARTMENT SPACE REQUIREMENTS. LIU SAID THAT  
OUR REQUEST WOULD BE STUDIED AND PROMISED REPLY AS SOON AS  
POSSIBLE. END SUMMARY.

1. PROTOCOL DEPARTMENT, RESPONDING TO DEAN AND THAYER  
JULY 2 REQUEST TO DIRECTOR CHU CHUAN'LHSIEN FOR EARLY APPOINT-  
MENT TO DISCUSS SPACE REQUIREMENTS, ARRANGED MEETING AT  
MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS JULY 6 WITH DEPUTY DIRECTOR LIU  
HUA.

2. AFTER REFERRING TO FOREIGN MINISTER CHIAO KUAN-HUA'S  
AND PROTOCOL CHIEF CHU'S COMMENTS, DEAN NOTED THAT WHILE  
PRC LIAISON OFFICE IN WASHINGTON MAY BE LARGE ENOUGH TO COPE  
WITH INCREASING WORKLOAD, USLO DOES NOT HAVE SUFFICIENT  
STAFF OR SPACE TO MEET NEEDS. TOLD LIU THAT INCREASE  
IN STAFF FOR NEAR-TERM NEEDS WAS IN KEEPING WITH GROWING  
IMPORTANCE OF US-PRC RELATIONSHIP. ADDED THAT WHILE  
FUTURE REQUIREMENTS WOULD BE CONSIDERABLY GREATER, THIS  
SPACE REQUEST WAS A TEMPORARY SOLUTION FOR PRESSING  
NEEDS AT THIS TIME.

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3. WE THEN TOLD LIU THAT OFFER OF TWO SAN LI TUN APARTMENTS APPRECIATE BUT WE WOULD PREFER TO HAVE 2-STORY, L-SHAPED ANNEX BUILT ON OUR PRESENT SITE. REASONS FOR THIS REQUEST DISCUSSED AT LENGTH. SECOND ALTERNATIVE OF NEARBY COMPOUND OR OTHER NEARBY BUILDING IN KUANG HUA ROAD VICINITY ALSO RAISED, FOLLOWED BY THIRD ALTERNATIVE OF NEW RESIDENCE FOR AMBASSADOR TO ALLOW PRESENT RESIDENCE TO BE USED AS ADDITIONAL OFFICE SPACE. PROBLEM OF APARTMENTS FOR INCREASED STAFF WAS ALSO DISCUSSED.

4. LIU RESPONDED BY ASKING FOR ADDITIONAL CLARIFICATION OF OUR REQUESTS. HE REFERRED TO VERY DIFFICULT SPACE SITUATION CAUSED BY GREAT NUMBER OF NEW DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS IN PAST 2 AND 3 YEARS AND ASKED ABOUT OUR POSITION ON SAN LI TUN APARTMENTS. WE REPLIED THAT WE WOULD LIKE TO HAVE CHINESE REACTION TO OUR THREE PROPOSAL AND WOULD PREFER TO HOLD IN ABEYANCE ANY FURTHER DISCUSSION OF SAN LI TUN APARTMENTS. LIU PROMISED TO CONSIDER OUR VIEWS. HE SAID THAT DIPLOMATIC SERVICE BUREAU DIRECTOR HUS HUANG WOULD HANDLE DETAILS OF SPACE REQUIREMENTS WITH US. LIU PROMISED REPLY TO OUR REQUEST AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

5. COMMENT: WE THINK IT IS LIKELY THAT CHINESE WILL GIVE US THE COURTESY OF CHECKING INTO L-SHAPED ANNEX ONCE AGAIN BUT IT IS DOUBTFUL THAT THEY WILL CHANGE THEIR MINDS AND APPROVE. WE MAY BE LUCKIER WITH MORE SPACE NEAR KUANG HUA ROAD. ON BALANCE, HOWEVER, WE SUSPECT THAT CHINESE WILL COME BACK TO OFFER OF SAN LI TUN APARTMENTS. FROM THEIR POINT OF VIEW, THIS WOULD BE SUITABLY TEMPORARY ACCOMMODATION OUR CURRENT NEEDS. IF CHINESE DO RETURN TO OFFER OF TWO SAN LI TUN APARTMENTS AS SOLE POSSIBILITY, WE STRONGLY RECOMMEND THAT WE ACCEPT. FRANKLY, WE NEED THE SPACE AND ALL ELEMENTS OF THE MISSION ARE PREPARED TO MAKE THE NECESSARY ACCOMMODATION THAT A SEPARATE ANNEX 2-1/2 MILES AWAY ENTAILS. RECENT APARTMENT CONSTRUCTION OFFERS SOME HOPE OF MORE LIVING SPACE FOR STAFF IN NOVEMBER WITH ADDITIONAL POSSIBILITIES NEXT JUNE.

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